

BLN NEVS
New Mexico Oklahoma Texas Kansas
www.nm.blm.gov

Date: August 10, 2000 Contact: Mary White Phone: (505) 438-7514

## **Bureau of Land Management** to Host RAC Meeting in Gallup

The Bureau of Land Management's Resource Advisory Council (RAC) will hold a meeting on Thursday and Friday, August 24-25 at the Best Western Inn and Suites, 3009 West Highway 66, Gallup, New Mexico, to consider the subjects of off highway vehicle usage and mining reclamation on public lands in northwestern New Mexico.

An overview of the four off highway vehicle listening sessions that were held throughout New Mexico in July will be presented on Thursday.

After registering, on Friday June 16 beginning at 10:00a.m., the public may address the RAC about off highway vehicle use or mining issues.

The BLM field office managers will report at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, June 16, on the Transportation Planning and mineral activities which apply in their respective parts of the State of New Mexico as well as other ongoing activities in their offices.

The Resource Advisory Council consists of 15 members whose representation is balanced equally among three general interest categories:

- 1) grazing, mining, timber, off-highway vehicle interest, or developed recreation interest;
- 2) environmental organizations, archaeological and historical interests, and wild horse and burro groups;
- 3) state and local government, local elected officials, Indian tribes, natural science academicians, and the public at large.

The purpose of the RAC is to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with the management of public lands. The Council's responsibilities include providing advice on long-range planning and establishing resource management priorities.